

REMARKS

In light of the above amendments and remarks to follow, entry of this amendment and reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9, 11-20, and 22 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-9, 11-20, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over von Rosen et al. (US 6,493,677) in view of Weder (US 6,444,072).

Independent claim 1, as amended herein, recites in part as follows:

"... said image processing apparatus generating a preview image for performing preview display of a series of images for one of a reproduced image of a hologram and a holographic stereogram incorporated in the merchandise as the printed mater, the series of images being extracted from an image string constituting the one of a hologram and the holographic stereogram." (Emphasis added.)

Thus, in claim 1, a preview image is generated which may be utilized to display a series of images where the series of images are extracted from an image string that constitutes one of a hologram and a holographic stereogram.

In explaining the rejection, the Examiner appears to rely on von Rosen to teach the above recited feature. It is respectfully submitted that von Rosen does not teach generating a preview image for performing a preview display of a series of images wherein the "series of images" are "extracted from an image string constituting the one of a hologram and the holographic stereogram." Von Rosen does not appear to disclose extracting a series of images from an image string which may be used to form a hologram or a holographic stereogram. Rather, von Rosen appears to merely teach receiving a short description

of an order, a graphic image, an image credit, and a text message to generate a preview of how a merchandise item will appear. Accordingly, claim 1 is believed to be distinguishable from the applied combination of von Rosen and Weder.

For similar or somewhat similar reasons with regard to claim 1, amended independent claim 12 is believed to be distinguishable from the applied combination of von Rosen and Weder.

Claims 2-9, 11, 13-20, and 22 depend from one of claims 1 and 12, and, due to such dependency, are believed to be distinguishable from the applied combination of von Rosen and Weder for at least the reasons previously described.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: May 15, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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